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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
Haruo AKIBA : EXAMINER: KASZTEJNA, M.  
SERIAL NO: 10/689,650 :  
RCE FILED: December 8, 2005 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3739  
FOR: VALVED PLUG FOR :  
ENDOSCOPIC BIOPSY  
CHANNEL

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 4, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.